"WORD PROCESSING" - TERM DOSALLOWED

Warren Storey.

ACCA is an accaronym, oops! acronym, derived like the myriad of communication and computer terms in use to-day, from the initial letters of the name of our association, the Australasian Communications and Computer Association.

ACCA Ltd, brings together the members of two previously separate organizations AMUS - Australian Microcomputer Users Society and SPARC - Sydney Progressive Amateur Radio Club, (more acronyms) (due largely to Peter Jensen having been President of both), and has done so at a time when radio, long established as a means of communication, and computers with their influence of digital technology are becoming inextricably interwoven in all manner of leading edge electronic research and development.

One of the earliest acronyms of the embryo electronic era which comes to mind, was coined when communication between locations without intervening conductors became a reality and while the English speaking peoples were happy to tag the new electric wonder simply as "the wireless", (without wires), their neighbours across the Channel dubbed the marvellous invention of Mr Marconi "La T. S. F." (tayesseff) an acronym which stood for "Télégraphie sans fil" (telegraphy without wire).

I did not set out to talk about acronyms, this short contribution was going to be an examination of the term "word processing" and the suitability of the name to describe that exercise, but it's easy to sidetrack when you start writing with ideas in your head but no exact plan of expression or order of presentation in mind.

Word processing, a term used in computer jargon to describe manipulation and arranging of words, is really only an electronic means of typing information in the form of words onto a screen, being able to delete, correct, alter, change position of whole paragraphs or blocks of text, all without the use of eraser or correction fluid and record (save) the final result for future reference, transmission, or print-out - any number of copies.

The term is a misnomer. It is not the words which are processed, words are only the elements of speech, the building blocks of written language, all of definate shape and meaning. It is the text that is processed. The arrangement and selection of those building blocks is what we work on, they are put together, pulled down, re-erected to create a structure conveying shades of meaning, all with the convenience of a few keystrokes, to express pathos, anger, scorn, sarcasm, humour, love, emotion, almost any human thought.

This exercise when carried out by putting pen to paper before the computer came along, was called writing and unless the author was a very gifted writer, or the writer was a very gifted author, wasted heaps of paper and resulted in writer's cramp.

The term "word processing" if used at all, should describe the way a new word develops, is invented or changes meaning e.g. telephone = phonetic telegraph, television = vision by telecommunication, modem = modulate & demodulate, automotive = self moving, fax = machine for transmission of a facsimile. (A second machine is needed at the receiving end.) Acronyms are also prolific word processors, e.g. ANZAC, TV, UK, NATO, NASA, ASIO, the boxer was "kayoed" (knocked out).

By far the most fertile source of new words, old words with new meaning, or pretentious ways of saying something which could be, or previously was, expressed much more simply with more precise meaning, comes from our politicians, corporate leaders, professional people, particularly in

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READERS

THIS IS YOUR MAGAZINE

WE NEED YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

EDITORIAL

Ed MH has at last tried out Windows 95, not just in shops, but actually installed it on home PC - not without trepidation remembering problems with its predecessor Windows 3.1 over some years! Also now most programs seem to work reasonably well with 3.1 it seems foolish to move away.

Now I understand why older people are often reluctant to change. When everything is new there's not a lot of difference between one and another, but once you have invested much time and effort it seems a pity to throw it away - for what?.

However temptation won! But in order to have my cake and eat it, I installed Partition Magic 3 & the included Boot Manager. I divided the original Drive C into two partitions C (one of which is always hidden) and Boot Manager also always hidden. Then installed Windows 95 on one of them. Worked a treat. But I still don't know how much of DOS I need to include in the Windows 95 Config.sys and Autoexec.bat. All the Windows 3.1 programs are on Drive E, and the Windows 95 are on Drive F.

The main event precipitating this was changing the motherboard to a Pentium, with 200MHz chip, and a new SCSI hard drive controller, (the old one would not work with the new Motherboard!). But that needed more drivers for the SCSI drive! This left less space for programs in Windows 3.1. Some programs - mostly CD-ROMS such as The Louvre would not work at all in 3.1, but work a treat in Win95.

On the new machine I installed all the Windows 3.1 programs anew, (in the Dos partition) but on the other machine, I just swapped the hard disk over and made some alterations to the config.sys and autoexec.bat files. Because, I think, that win.ini is so large, (with masses of fonts installed by various CD-ROMS, and not identified) therefore needing so much memory, the sound parts don't work at all! So it will have to be Windows 95 sooner or later! I am putting all new programs onto Windows 95.

A new treasure, I got the upgrade for Pageplus 4, a mere $50 USD and back came two CD's one the program, and the other of fonts and clip art, which I did not install, but the clip art seems better than previous ones. Pageplus 4 is faster and has a number of good minor adjustments, such as different cursors according to what you have selected. Printing is fast, as is scrolling. More at a later date. There is no TablePlus, they seem to have got the tabs to work OK.

Windows 95 is supposed to be easier to use, maybe. I still get lost setting things up. There's are many more complicated bits and pieces of files and directories behind the scenes, much worse than 3.1. Alas now I've started....

economic or commercial disciplines and other pseudo-intellectuals. People who know how to say "now" but prefer to say "at this point in time". However "Now, at this point in time", emphasises the present, but "now, now" is an admonishment for children who've said a bad word.

Political correctness is given credence by those in authority and in anti-discrimination legislation and is the source of humourous, ridiculous and roundabout ways of saying something which was clearly stated previously but was unfortunately said to have sexist overtones. ??. e.g. manhole becomes maintenance person access port, chairman becomes chairperson, while the Sydney suburb of Manly become Personly.

Language is our means of communication and when referring to the creatures previously known as "MAN" or "MANKIND", has become "personified" or maybe "personificated" is better, (there you are! I've processed a word). This has been due largely to radical female representatives of the species "MAN", resentful of the establishment, getting into the ears of political "persons" who haven't got the courage to resist vocal minorities.

True word processing is happening as an involuntary, continuing process. It is happening all around us. It is part of the process of evolution, the language is growing and changing. New meanings are given to old words, other words starting life as acronyms creep almost unnoticed into our vocabulary, which constantly expands to accommodate human experience.

New developments, discoveries, methods and concepts create a need for new or altered building blocks of language, new ways of expressing and communicating the existence or the knowledge of something new or postulating a new theory about something old.

As technology expands and becomes more diverse it nourishes a fountain from which springs a constant process or procession of suitable words.

Below are examples of word processed dialogue with possible alternative meanings explored :-

*"Madam Chair". Should be well padded.

*"Bottom line". Madam chair will often present it in it's broadest aspect.

*"Fence sitting". Bottomless futility.

*"Broad summary". Assessment lacking detail and facts.

*"Meaningful discussion took place". We couldn't decide anything.

*"Dialogue". Sometimes meaningful, usually without solution.

*"Consensus". Only achieved if all agree with the convenor.

*"Cordial consensus". Celebration of consensus with fruit juice served in schooner glasses

*"Ongoing intercourse". Similar to ongoing dialogue, but more fun.

*"Ongoing". Adjectival form of the verb to "ongo". When you're no longer "an....ongoer" a few keystrokes and you're "a....nongoer"

*"Friends of the Earth". Proposed new name for the CPGDA (Certified Practicing Grave Diggers Association)

*"Up front offers and bottom line aspects" are factors in top level decision making.

*"Tasting the dregs of defeat". Originated in the Holy Land in Biblical times during a water shortage.

*"Minority Status". Enjoyed by ethnic groups, honest politicians, left wing conservatives and doctors who do house calls.

*"Indicated to". A fashionable substitute for "told" or "said to". Recipient can be deaf but must understand sign language.

*"At this point in time". First used by Julius Ceasar when someone in Britain told him the date was 55 BC. Adopted by pedantic orators who have trouble saying "now". Also used by time travellers who break their journey to use the toilet thereby making a deposit in the sands of time.

*"Time frame". Time traveller charged with a crime he didn't commit. "I was five hundred years ago at the time"

*"Person". Politically correct term for anyone be she a he or be he a she.

*"A real person". Abstract praise indicating worthiness. *"A real person's person" Meaning depends on whether the speaker is AC or DC.

*"Redundancy package". Employees'may have been redundant for years but get package only when terminated.

*"Termination Payment". On TV it is the fee paid to a hit person. In real life it consists of a token payment and a ticket to inspect Parliament House.

*"Personnel". Fast being replaced by "human resource" after having displaced "employees" years ago.

*"A low proportion of people". A long winded way of saying a few people. Makes the speaker sound as if he or she has done research on the subject

*"Delivered". Services available, e.g. Social Security etc. are now said to be delivered. Origin maybe "Church services", delivered by clergymen.

*"Sex object". One who objects every time the subject comes up, usually female.

*"Jogger". A person suffering from physical compulsion syndrome, who disrupts quiet use of footpaths by peaceful pedestrians and defecating dogs.

WORDSTAR FOR DOS

Tips & Tricks

QUESTION: When I create a document that contains headers and then either view it in Advanced Page Preview or print it on my laser printer, the headers don't print.

ANSWER:

This problem is usually the result of the top margin being too small to accommodate the number of header lines. To see if this is the cause, do the following:

1. Check your current top margin value and convert it to lines (if specified in inches.) WordStar defaults to a .50 top margin which is equivalent to 3 lines (based on a 6 line per inch increment.)

2. Subtract the current header margin (the default is .34 or 2 lines).

3. Subtract the number of header lines in use.

If you come up with a value less than zero, increase your top margin using the MT command before the header line (for example .MT 1.00) or decrease your header margin value using the .HM command (for example .HM 0.00).

QUESTION: When I'm using a non-proportional font such as Courier 10, my header or footer shows up in Advanced Page Preview and prints, but when I change to a proportional font such as Times Roman 14pt., the headers or footers don't show up in Advanced Page Preview or print. What causes this?

ANSWER: This is usually the result of the Header/Footer buffer size value in WSCHANGE being too low. To correct this, do the following:

1. To start the WSCHANGE program, type WSCHANGE WS at the DOS prompt in the WordStar directory (usually C:\WS or *C:\WS55)*.

2. At the WSCHANGE Main Menu, press C for Computer.

3. At the Computer Menu, press C for Memory usage.

4. At the Memory Usage Menu, press 2 for Memory Usage Menu #2.

5. At the Memory Usage Menu #2, screen press C for Header and footer size (bytes).

6. At the Enter new value. prompt type a new value (such as 4096) and press 06

Try doubling the current value at first as you can always come back and then increase it if necessary.

7. Once your changes are made, to exit the WSCHANGE program, press ^X and then press Y at the Are you through making changes? (Y/N) prompt.

QUESTION: I use WordStar all the time but one day I went into WordStar and all my files were Protected. When I tried to unprotect them at the Opening Menu, WordStar told me they weren't protected. What's wrong?

ANSWER: If you did not protect these files in WordStar, then some other program such as DOS may be protecting them. Here are some of the reasons why this can happen:

1. The disk is full and WordStar doesn't have enough disk space to write the temporary files it uses to edit files. Run the DOS DIR command at your DOS C prompt. At the end of the file listing, check the Bytes Free value to see how much disk space is available. If necessary, remove (delete) some files such as the *.BAK files.

2. The FILES value in your CONFIG.SYS file needs to be increased. If this value is currently set to 30, try changing to 40. Be sure to reboot your system after making changes to this file, or the changes you made won't take effect. (With DOS versions 2.0 or 2.1, this value CANNOT exceed 20. If it is higher, then DOS defaults back to a FILES=8 value which is not enough to use WordStar.)

3. Use the DOS ATTRIB command to see if the Read Only attribute has been set. This DOS command allows you to flag certain files and/or entire directories as Read Only. To use this command at a DOS level in the drive/directory where the files are located, type ATTRIB ~ This will produce a list of the files in the directory along with any attribute settings. If the files that are protected have an R next to them, then the files are Read Only. Type ATTRIB ~ -R in the directory to remove this setting. The -R tells ATTRIB to remove the read only attribute. Using +R sets it back to Read Only.

4. The File Allocation Table is full. (This situation usually occurs if you're using floppy disks.) The File Allocation Table is created when you create a directory or format a disk. On 5 1/4 (360K) floppy disks, the limit of file entries in the root directory is 112. To correct the problem, copy some of these files on to another floppy disk or create a subdirectory on the floppy disk and copy them into it. Then delete them from the root directory. See your DOS manual for entry limits in different media sizes.

5. There is no notch on the floppy disk or it's covered. Either notch the disk or remove the write protect tab to correct the problem. On 720K or 1.44M disks (3 1/2) the window must be closed.

QUESTION: When I choose add third-party laser fonts to my *.PDF, I'm prompted for Printer Data 0. When I check my original disks I can't find files labelled Printer Data 0. How can I get Printer Data 0?

ANSWER: The PRCHANGE program is really looking for the files created by the LSRFONTS program.

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HF PACKET GATEWAY

Mike Walton VK2MJ

The gateway was started about four years ago with the idea of giving amateurs living in country areas a opportunity to access Sydney bbs's and use the local packet system.

The gateway started with a dual port Kam+ tnc operating at 300 baud on hf and 1200 baud on vhf. Hard ware and software used was a 286 with PaKet 6 as the software program. When the gateway started it was on 80 mtrs and the vhf port was on 145.050 which is the access port for the Macquarie Uni tcp/ip gateway.

The vhf port was put on this freq as I had become involved in helping with the tcp/ip gateway and it was hoped that later it would link to the WIA BBS at Dural. After a month or two operating on 80mtrs it was found that conditions were not that good so the freq was changed to 40mtrs which was hoped to give a better service. I found a quiet freq on 40mtr at 7.0350 and have been on that freq ever since.

After running the hf gateway for over 12 months with no access to a local bbs I decided to put on another port with access to a bbs. As paKet does not allow for more than one coms port to be used I asked Craig VK2BTQ what program I should use realising that I would have to use a bbs type of program. His suggestion was to use JNOS which would allow as many ports as I needed plus any more in the future. Also with using Jnos I could use tcp/ip for the link to the Macquarie uni gateway. I thought this was a good idea as it would allow users to use tcp/ip from the my gateway without having to connect to VK2GMU the Macquarie gateway first. For the next twelve month I played around with Jnos getting all the parameter set up to my liking and updating the versions of Jnos every 2 month or so as a new version came out plus upgrading the computer to a 386 sx. During this twelve months I started mail forwarding to VK2DAA to give a personal mail service for my users. This was done to cut out the link for mail sending which could make a borderline contact impossible.

At this point the HF gateway users could use most internet protocols like tcp/ip, ftp, finger, ping, smtp and popmail. The system itself had reached a point where it could not be expanded due to Dos memory limitations. Jnos only uses the first 1meg of memory and part of this 1meg is used for video which leaves 640 k for use if you play around with the memory management you can get up to 740 k . With this limitation FBB forwarding could not be compiled into the program for compressed forwarding and Netrom made the system very unstable, also the more users you had the less time the system stayed up before crashing or needed a reboot. So about twelve months ago I decided (against advice from others) to go into using

Tnos which is Unix based and runs under Linux a shareware version of unix. As someone who had only been using computers for six years using Tnos meant that I had to learn how to set up a new program plus how to use a new operating system. As Linux is Unix based it is a system set up for computer programmers which means that it is not user friendly and not for the average user. Over the last twelve months I have learnt the basics of how to use Linux and have managed to get the better of Tnos.

The HF gateway now has all internet protocols except http in use plus Netrom and full FBB compressed forwarding of mail sent to the local AX25 network. I do keep most of the local bulletins for users to read but do not keep bulletins sent world wide as most users can read them on other bbs's.

The HF gateway could be used an emergency to enable the Transfer of information from a remote area to a local co-ordinator or sent direct to the headquarters of the state or federal minister. In an emergency an opening could be made in the ampmet gateway fire wall to allow mail to travel out of the ampmet into the Internet .

Messages could then be sent from the emergency by ax25 on 40mtrs to my Gateway and then is sent via smtp direct to it's destination . This could speed up the sending of messages and as the message is not touched on its journey by other operators the exact message end up at the destination. At the moment I am doing experiments with VK2BDU with using tcp/ip on HF. If these experiments work out mail can then be sent from the emergency site direct to its destination with smtp or popmail.

As you can see the HF gateway has grown from a simple idea to a system which can be very versatile in what it can offer in services and is also very educational in the way it stimulates leaning as the system as grows.

PRIMARY, EXTENDED, LOGICAL, FREE SPACE!

From Powerquest Corporation

(Found this article on the Powerquest site, http://www.powerquest.com, and thought it would be of interest to readers.)

Note: You may freely distribute this white paper as long as you retain the copyright information.

We have found here at PowerQuest that many of our users are confused by the Extended partition and what it does. We have also found that many users are unsure of what type of partition they need—whether it be a Primary partition or a Logical partition. Hopefully we are able to provide a little insight that will help eliminate some of the confusion.

How did it all begin? Many years ago, when hard drives became common in computers, most hard drives were small and therefore limited. At this stage, though the drives were small, they were still considered to contain adequate space to carry us many years into the future. Well, we all know the story. As any computer user now knows, there never seems to be enough hard drive space. In the beginning, however, with one hundred to five hundred MB hard drives, it was believed that most users would never need any more than one partition, or division of the space on the drive. However, the governing powers at the time decided to build in a small provision for "power users" which would allow them to divide their drives into more than one partition. For this reason, a standard was developed that allowed for a "generous" four Primary partitions. It was soon discovered, however, with the development of larger hard drives and a variety of different operating systems, that four partitions would no longer be sufficient.

This insufficiency lead to the development of the Extended partition. The Extended partition, by nature, is a Primary partition. What then makes it different? The Extended partition was created in an attempt to overcome the four Primary limit. This is significant because inside the Extended partition more partitions called Logical partitions can be created. Logical partitions are so called because they are a logical chain of partitions that, when added together, equal the size of the Extended partition. One thing to note about the Extended partition is that it never receives a drive letter. One way to think of the Extended partition is as a container that goes around all of the Logical partitions. Although the Extended partition does not have a drive letter and does not contain information like the Primary partition and the Logical partition, it is still necessary to make modifications to it when attempting to move space from a Logical partition to a Primary partition or vice-versa.

Now that we know what each one of the partitions are, let's discuss what they do. We have found through a number of our own in-house tests and from many of our users that several of the most common operating systems such as Windows 95 and OS/2 have a problem working with multiple visible Primary partitions (MVP's). MVP's occur when two or more Primary partitions (up to four) are visible on a single drive at one time. Therefore, the rule of thumb states that there should only be one Primary partition visible (or assigned a drive letter) at any given time. This brings up several questions of how and when to use Primary partitions.

In general, Primary partitions should be used in conjunction with an operating system such as in a multi boot situation. In this case, one Primary partition would be active and bootable and the other Primary partition containing the other operating system, would be hidden or not visible, and therefore not receive a drive letter. With this setup, PartitionMagic (or other programs such as System Commander by V-Communications, or OS/2's Boot Manager by IBM) would be used to set active the desired Primary partition for boot. It would also hide the remaining Primary partitions therefore only keeping one Primary partition visible at any given time.

Once the Primary partition has been created for the operating system, then Logical partitions can be created for programs and data. Remember, however, that before the Logical partition can be created, an Extended partition must be created. When the Extended partition is created using PartitionMagic, a blue outline is created surrounding free space (unformatted space that is not currently reserved or set up to store data). It is with this Free Space that Logical partitions can be created and allocated as desired.

Let's assume we have made it this far and have successfully created a Primary partition for our operating system and an Extended partition that contains two Logical partitions. This would give us drive letters of C: (Primary partition 500MB), D: (Logical partition 250MB), and E: (Logical partition 250MB). Both D: and E: are inside of the Extended partition. Let's say that this setup has worked fine for several months but now we want to install a new program on our D: partition, and there is not enough space. This is not a problem for PartitionMagic. We can take some space from our C: partition and add it to our D: partition with these simple steps:

1. Select the C: partition and choose RESIZE.
2. Resize the C: partition down by the amount to add to the D: partition. (For this example, lets choose 50MB).

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"Leak". Political tactic to test public opinion before adopting a new policy. Also useful for relieving internal pressure during Parliamentary cocktail parties.

*"A bitter pill to swallow". Early form of contraceptive.

*"Viable". Modern Modem useage displaces words such as durable, lasting, possible, workable, practical, effective.

*"Economically viable". Expense easier to justify.

*"Consider the proposal". Sit on it for a while.

*"Consider it in isolation". Sit on it while locked in a padded cell.

*"Deemed". For a long time exclusive property of the legal profession has been brought back to real life by the Tax Office.

*"Sexual harassment". One of the more entertaining forms available.

*"Verbal harassment". Should not be confused with oral.

*"Situation". Can be a place where something is located, or a personal state of being, described in economic, marital, mental, political or legal terms or it can be used in diplomatic or media jargon i.e. world situation.

*"Perverting the course of Justice" A term invented when the Gay Mardi Gras was held during Law Week and paraded along Phillip Street.

From the above examples it becomes clear that Word Processing does not occur when you use your computer as a word processor. That operation should be called text processing or word arranging, but it is too late, the processes of language evolution have already embedded this term in the language of today without any conscious decision on the matter having been made, taken, or even subjected to ongoing meaningful dialogue.

PRIMARY, EXTENDED, LOGICAL, FREE SPACE! - CONT

This will leave us with a 450MB C: partition, 50MB Free Space, a 500MB Extended partition, a 250MB D: partition and a 250MB E: partition.

3. Select the Extended partition and choose RESIZE to resize the extended partition to 550MB. This puts the Free Space that came from our C: partition into the Extended partition. Remember however, that it is still free space and not currently usable.

This will leave us with a 450MB C: partition, a 550MB Extended partition, a 50MB Free Space, a 250MB D: partition and a 250MB E: partition.

4. Next, select the D: partition and choose MOVE.

5. Move the D: partition all the way to the left (or set Free Space before to 0).

This will leave us with a 450MB C: partition, a 550MB Extended partition, a 250MB D: partition a 50MB Free Space, and a 250MB E: partition.

6. Select the D: partition and choose RESIZE, then resize the D: partition to 300MB.

This will leave us with a 450MB C: partition, a 550MB Extended partition, a 300MB D: partition, and a 250MB E: partition.

At this point, we are done. During this process, there are two important points to remember.

1. The Extended partition must be resized to allow free space to be moved from outside the Extended partition to inside the Extended partition.

2. When resizing a partition (other than the Extended partition) the Free Space must be to the right of that partition.

To recap, Primary partitions should be used for operating systems, all Logical partitions must be created inside the Extended partition, and all Logical partitions added together equal the size of the Extended partition. When using multiple Primary partitions, only one partition should be active and visible at a time; the others should be hidden. (Hiding, unhiding and setting partitions active can all be done with PartitionMagic.) A tip that may come in handy when installing a second drive is to only create an Extended partition with Logical partitions on that drive. By not creating a Primary partition on the second drive, having drive letters change can be avoided.

INFORMATION FROM AIRPORT WEATHER SERVICES

Julius KENTWELL VK2ISI (via the Packet Network)

Many airports and aerodromes provide weather information on what is called an Automatic Terminal Information Service (ATIS) which continually broadcasts a summary of information relevant to the airport or aerodrome. The term 'airport' refers to commercial installations, while 'aerodrome' covers private civilian and military installations. The term 'terminal' is generic, ie, it covers all. These services are transmitted on the Non Directional Beacon band, 200 kHz to 420 kHz; the VHF aircraft band, 108 to 136 MHz, and parts of the UHF airforce military band between 300 and 350odd MHz. The information is recorded on a continuous tape loop or in computer. It is a list of weather, runway and unusual conditions. We are interested mainly in the weather.

A typical ATIS sounds something like this:

"Sydney terminal information Xray. Runway 16 left and right for departures and arrivals. Wet. Parallel runway operations in progress. Independent departures in progress. Wind 160 degrees 10 knots to 20 knots. QNH 1015. Temperature 20. Cloud 2 oktas 500. 4 oktas 800. Visibility reducing to 8 kilometres in passing showers. Expect ILS approach with radar vectoring. On first contact with Sydney ground or approach notify receipt of Xray."

(Actual ATIS at 17:52:00 29 January 1997.)

Or this:

"Richmond terminal information India. Runway 10. Wind 140 degrees 5 to 15. QNH 1015, temperature 20. Cloud 1 okta 100, 4 oktas 500. Visibility 10 kilometres, reducing to 3000 metres in rain. Richmond nonVMC, expect ILS approach. On first contact with Richmond ground tower or approach, notify receipt of India."

(Actual ATIS at 17:58:00 29 January 1997.)

WHAT does it all mean?

Runways are specified according to compass bearing. Sydney's runway 07 is 062 degrees east. The name of the information is derived from the international phonetic alphabet:

Alpha Bravo Charlie Delta Echo Foxtrot Golf Hotel India Juliet Kilo Lima Mike November Oscar Papa Quebec Romeo Sierra Tango Uniform Victor Whisky Xray Yankee Zulu.

At midnight, the ATIS restarts at Alpha. It is only altered when an airport condition undergoes a significant change. Should such a change occur, the next letter is used. These changes include temperature, air pressure, wind, cloud, runways and people crashing their planes onto the airport. How about a look at the Sydney ATIS from a weather only sense? "Wet" implies that it has been raining or, failing that, an elephant has had a pee on the runway. Wind One Six Zero Degrees (for such is it spoken) should be self-explanatory from your compass. 20 degrees east of south. 10 knots to 20 knots is as equally obvious. Knots are nautical miles per hour, somewhat larger than statute miles per hour by around 800 feet. QNH is air pressure at mean sea level. It used to be quoted in millibars but is now measured in WhatTheHekkatapascalls. The two units are identical, so I can't see the point in changing a short name for a longer one when the unit of measurement remains constant. "Temperature Two Zero" is painfully obvious. Equally obvious is that it does NOT refer to Fahrenheit! Sky cloud cover is measured in oktas. One okta means that one eighth of the sky is covered by cloud at a specified altitude, measured in feet above ground level. When there is very little cloud, the expression 'CAVOK' is used and it means, simply, 'Cloud And Visibility OK' 'ILS' means 'Instrument Landing System' which is a set of radio transmitters feeding highly specialised antennas. The signal is one carrier on the low end of VHF where, on axis with the runway, an equal amount of two signals is picked up in the receiver. One signal is modulated at 150 Hz and the other with 90 Hz. To one side of runway centre, one modulation component predominates. The other side has the other modulation component. When the aircraft is on centre line, a cockpit meter is centred. Deviating to left or right results in 90 Hz or 150 Hz becoming dominant and the meter is deflected to left or right accordingly. This is known as 'glide path indication'. The procedure is repeated on UHF at around 338 MHz for what's called 'glide slope indication' which is the vertical angle of approach to the runway. Same rules apply with respect to the modulation frequencies and method of operation. 'VMC' means 'visual meteorological conditions' which refers to a pilot's ability to see the ground. There are, roughly, two classes of pilots: those who can fly when they can see the ground and those who can fly in any weather. The most common cause of light plane crashes is 'visual flight rules' pilots being caught in 'nonVMC' (IFR, or Instrument Flight Rules) conditions. The almost inevitable result of such a scenario is what we in aviation call the Graveyard Spiral. It's killed more pilots than almost everything else put together. The expressions 'ground', 'tower' and 'approach' (among others) simply refer to airport facilities associated with these self-explanatory functions. Any unusual weather or other phenomena will be included in the ATIS. In some cases, these will refer to gliders in aerodromes such as Camden (near Sydney) where gliders

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BAZOOKA ANTENNA

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I saw a few requests lately on Packet and thought there might be others that might be interested in the Bazooka Antenna. Here we go..If you have the room forget the Bazooka put up a loop for 75 met, 1005 divided by freq, feed it with 300 ohm TV lead takes 2 kw and is an impedance match, as a loop has a Z of 299 ohms hook to your open wire contacts on the tuner with a 4:1:1 balun & you can tune all bands, mine is up 40 ft. Put loop in triangle or square, either is OK. Just as quiet as the bazooka. Don't have the formulas but here are the measurements.

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|-----2.-----|--------1.-------(apex)
measurements same on each side
X======X========A=======X======X
```

Band	#1	#2	Total feet	Freq. MHZ
80	39'6"	29'6"	120'	3.910
40	16'9"	14'9"	63'	7.228
20	3'9"	8'0"	33'6"	14.210
15	5'7"	5'10"	22'10"	21.350
10	4'2"	4'5"	17'2"	28.600

1.5 dB over dipole, -6dB noise feature due to lack of static build up on the antenna and they are flat on 75 for a long way no tuner needed. The LOOP is best it's full wave receive and half wave on TXmit.

To construct the Bazooka: Cut at the center (A),(1 in) each side of center at (A) in the drawing above. Only the Shield, leaving the center conductor intact, solder the 300 ohm to the 1 in leads. At #2 for 75 meters measure 39'6" from center (A) cut 1/4 in each side of center measured from the center of #1 length from drawing above and solder shield to the center conductor. Do this on each side. Pull it up on the pulley and anchor the ends at least 18 ft off ground with the apex at 90 to 120 degrees at 30 to ever how high your tower is. Feed it with the same type of coax you used to build the antenna.

Hope some of you find this useful as I did, till I had a Loop. RG8 big stuff(is heavy) or RG8 mini coax, best to use stranded center conductor.

WORDSTAR FOR DOS - CONT FROM PAGE 4

When you want to add HP-Bitmapped soft fonts to your PDF, you must first run LSRFONTS and create a set of custom database files. These database files (DB00.DTU, DB01 .DTU, DB02.DTU,

DB04.DTU, and INDEX.DTU) can normally be found in either your main WordStar directory (normally \WS) or the directory where your soft font files are located. Simply type the applicable path when prompted for the Printer Data 0 disk. If these files don't exist, then you need to run LSRFONTS to create them. See your WordStar Installing & Customising manual for more information on using the LSRFONTS program. (Check the manual's index for LSRFONTS entries.)

QUESTION: While editing, I periodically see Dot Limit in my status line. What causes this and how can I get rid of it?

ANSWER: This is a warning message informing you that the current amount of allocated memory for dot commands has been exceeded. The default amount of memory is 2-4K depending on the version and revision of WordStar you have. This value can be increased through WSCHANGE to a maximum of 10K. Here's how to do it.

1. To start the WSCHANGE program, type WSCHANGE WS at the DOS prompt in the WordStar directory (usually C:\WS or C:\W55).

2. At the WSCHANGE Main Menu press C for Computer.

3. At the Computer Menu press C for Memory usage.

4. At the Memory Usage Menu #1 press I for Dot command buffer, RR, etc. (bytes). 5. Try doubling the current value at first. You can always come back and increase this value if necessary. Type the new value (for example 4000) and press 06

6. To exit the WSCHANGE program, press X and then ^X and Y at the Are you through making changes? (Y/N) prompt.

NOTE: You may also want to use paragraph styles in your document instead of groups of dot commands. Check your Word Star Reference manual for more information on paragraph styles.

TTIAIIC - TRAVELS ON THE INTERNET - VIRTUAL VACATIONS

Mike Davis

It is just one year since I took up a subscription to the 'Net (I know because Demon have just charged my second year to my credit card!). Apart from consuming about 15 mins/day of telephone bills and some hour/day of keeping up with my correspondence, I have benefited by a holiday in Tennessee.

"A holiday in Tennessee?" I hear you say, "Virtual travel is all very well but" Just be patient, and I'll explain.

A friend in the computing industry managed to use the 'Net to look up the address of a former pen pal. Former to the extent that it was while at school twenty-five years ago that he wrote to a girl in the USA, and she wrote back to him. They never met, and lost touch when they went to college. So with the USA telephone directory on the net, he searched and found the telephone no. of his ex-pen pal's father. He rang that number, discovered that she was now married and lived in Tennessee and had an e-mail address. The pen pal relationship was struck up again, by this time by keyboard - in short, it was now digitised.

In her youth, this lady had been into the drugs and easy rider culture of the seventies, but had subsequently become a Christian and settled down. She and my friend shared a love of music, but when it turned out that she was exploring various aspects of her Christian faith, my friend thought that I might be an appropriate person to answer some of her "more difficult questions". Unfortunately, I had no net account. Until last November (1995), when I mentioned that I was getting one. It was clearly with relief that this information was passed on, and when I logged onto Demon for the first time, there were two messages waiting for me, one from Barrie, and one from Su.

This is no place to reflect upon the personal and theological discourses that ensued, but suffice to say that there could be few people better able to understand her questions, and even to respond to some of them than myself. So even God works in mysterious ways. For three months we corresponded, and then in February this year she announced that she was visiting the UK and staying at my friend's. She came to see us a couple of times, and although we couldn't spend a lot of time, we caught up on our thinking and she met Jenny (my wife), and when she went, she invited us to visit her in Tennessee. A nice idea, we all thought, but it seemed she was pretty safe.

Our e-mailed discussions continued, and when Jenny and I realised that we weren't going to get a real summer break, the idea of visiting the USA out of season began to take shape centering around TN. So I started browsing the web to see what was available. We found guides and pictures of the Smokie mountains (http://www.gorp.com/gorp/), information on other State Parks in the area, data on each TN county and lists of B&Bs (yes they do have them in the USA), and just before we booked our flights, a book by Carson Brewer called "Just over the next ridge", about sights off the beaten track in East Tennessee, just what we needed! (see http://www.esper.com/local/jotnr/index.html)

Now the problem with such a mass of information is that 200k of text is quite a hefty printout, an unlikely to be particularly pocketable. Next on the scene is my trusty Psion 3a now, after a few close shaves of free fall from brief cases and pockets, hugged close to my side in a belt holster and my constant companion. A good guy called Barry Childress .1420@compuserve.com has written a shareware text reader for the PS ion called, unimaginatively, "Reader22". What is imaginative is that it reads simply compressed text (about 50% compression) and presents it sideways on the Psion, which can be opened for reading like a book. So we downloaded "Over the Next Ridge" onto the Psion with Reader and, thus equipped, set off for Tennessee.

Su met us at Nashville, helped me stay on the right side of the road as we drove 90 miles to her place, and introduced us to her husband, children(3), cats(2), dogs (2), rabbit (1) and computer "Pooter" (1). After two nights recovering from the journey, we set off to explore the great unexplored Tennessee. Thanks to Carson Brewer and Barry Childress we had a wonderful time, turning up side roads and finding wonderful people (not all of whom had been described in Carson's book) and sights. These included the highest waterfall East of the Rockies (285 ft), a flock of "fainting goats", that faint when endangered, "They don't faint much nowadays, they're too used to folk!" said the guide at the Appalachian Museum where they're kept, and Pikeville, "the pumpkin capital of the world"

Back at Su's, after watching a tornado pass too close for comfort, we didn't need Carson to get us to another brewer and distiller, Jack Daniels in Lynchberg, where, due to its being in a "dry county", we were allowed only to smell the whisky and drink lemonade! (All together now; "Aaaaawwww!") From a miracle of technology, that was almost unthinkable only ten years ago, we had a superb holiday, made possible through many the wonderful people who use the net for work and play.

WHERE ARE YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS?

WORLD WIDE WEB
Barrie Towey

What are some of the more off-beat features of the World Wide Web? Again, my Aviation interest shows through here, but at least it gives you an idea of what is possible. Flyte Trax Query System is a rather nice site if you are meeting a flight in the States - just set • Netscape to contact

http://www.amerwxcncpt.com/FlyteTrax/ftquery
Here you can input any flight number that is in US Airspace and it will give you a map of the position of the aircraft and the expected arrival time - and they are VERY accurate - I guess it must query the ACARS unit on the aircraft to get the information.

Another site for you to try is http://www.whowhere.com This runs a query on any name to return the e-mail address for anyone on the Internet - Trying my name gave a unique match, whereas trying "Mike Davis" gave over 500 throughout the world, but did find Michael as well as Mike which makes is really user friendly. If you know part of the domain name you can feed that in.

http://live.net/sandiego produces a live video camera overlooking San Diego Bay. It shows the corner of the airport, the Coast Guard Station and the view out over the bay. Watch aircraft land, cars drive along the roadway etc. LIVE. There are at least five video cameras at Atlanta, one overlooking the airport and for at downtown locations showing traffic on the freeways running through town - see what the traffic is like before you leave home!! Want to see what the five day forecast at Orlando is just before you jet off for your Christmas Holiday in Florida? The well known NBC Weather bar graphs that you see on American TV are at http://www.intellicast.com for many place in the states, as are several of the latest satellite radar images of precipitation etc. These are updated about every three hours, from memory.

There are also sites that include LIVE feeds from Air-Traffic control at Dallas Fort Worth and Chicago O'Hare Airports amongst others - about a fortnight ago there was a major emergency and DFW and it was incredible hearing the controllers trying to keep all the traffic around in the air in holding patterns. I cannot remember the URL but is should be easy to find with a Search Engine.

Morbid curiosity, or looking for factual information? The Federal Aviation Authority (FAA) Accident branch put up details of all reported accidents on a daily basis (Monday to Friday) and include some non-US Accidents. Exact details of which aircraft is involved are instantly downloadable. I closed my December Aircraft column with four US accidents that had happened the same day that I modem'd the column to the main editor - it was being printed three days later.

Computer-wise, I had a problem with a LaserJet 5L printer, and suspected software. I noticed that the software was version A, so went for 'www.hp.com. A few links later and I had downloaded the four floppy disks that formed version B.

Didn't solve the problem, but an easy try.

I also had a second hand machine with a Trident Video Card - drivers long since vanished into oblivion - and again, the 'net provided just what I wanted in about five minutes flat. That one did solve the problem

When it comes to Tech support problems, the 'net can answer most of the FAQ's (that's Frequently Asked Questions in netspeak).

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INFORMATION FROM AIRPORT WEATHER SERVICES
- CONT FROM PAGE 8

form a significant part of aerodrome operation. Crashed aircraft, thunderstorms, escaped balloons, men with handtools working on the airfield, aircraft on crossing runways and a multitude of sins may be covered. Weather phenomena are of interest to most of us and you can get a reasonable idea of what's going down by checking all the ATIS facilities in your area. You can use the 200 to 420 kHz band as an indicator of lightning activity, in conjunction with the 27 MHz chook band and 80 m plus 40 m, to gain an idea of where the thunderstorms are.

Summing up the weather information:

WIND is in compass degrees and knots.

QNH is barometric pressure in millibars or, these days, those bloody stupid hekkatapaskall things. Same unit of measurement, different name.

Temperature is as measured on your own thermometer.

Cloud cover is measured in oktas, 1 okta being one eighth of the sky. This measurement is always stated at a given altitude and / or altitudes. Exceptional weather

WOT, NO INKJET?

Tom Ruben

In the November Journal Barrie Towey asked for an article from someone who is using a colour inkjet printer. Well, I don't have one; let me explain why.

Many years ago, at work, I did indeed have a colour inkjet - a Tektronix. It boasted not one nor two but four separate cartridges: one each for cyan, magenta, yellow and black ink. And it gave no end of trouble. You had only to turn your back on it for five minutes and one of the jets - usually the black - would clog. Time to press the button to initiate the cleaning cycle, which took several minutes and wasted a prodigious amount of ink, of all four colours. If two or three cleaning cycles didn't unblock the jet, it was out with the special jet-cleaning fluid, applied via a syringe. And if this didn't work.... I have distrusted inkjet printers ever since.

Now I understand that in the last ten years there have been considerable advances both in inkjet technology and in ink composition. But I believe that current printers still feature a cleaning routine. Yet in all the many articles I have read in computer magazines about, and all the published test reports on, inkjet printers I have never seen any mention of this topic. So I would like to add to Barrie's request a plea for anyone who has used an inkjet printer - colour or black-and-white - extensively to write an article about his or her experience of their reliability, with particular reference to jet clogging. Is Epson's piezo technology inherently more reliable than the HP or Canon offerings?

Is my distrust of inkjets justified?

[They do have cleaning routines, but the only time I have heard of blocked jets is from people who have used only black for 2 months and then find a blocked jet on the colour cartridge - and two cycles cleared that - Ed]

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COLOUR INKJET PRINTING

Clive Chapman

I suppose technology progresses. My Epson MX80 9-pin dot-matrix cost the best part of £400 when I bought it with the original grey-box Osborne (was it really in 1982?). And nearly 18 months ago I parted with £350 to Resolution Computers for an Epson Stylus Colour ink-jet printer. However, with the dot-matrix I could press "Print" and off it would go; and, if I was doing a merge-print with 60 letters to produce (in emphasised type, of course), it and Word Star got on with it. Nowadays I can't do more than 9 at a time, for some reason. But perhaps that's WordPerfect or Windows, or I haven't got the hang of something. Moan, moan, moan.

The quality of black printing is fine, even on ordinary copying paper. On quality papers (Conqueror, for example) it spreads slightly, if you look hard. On ink-jet paper it is crisp and 'perfect'. I've not suffered from blocked jets, although, funnily enough, yesterday afternoon the print seemed to be spattering slightly throughout the document. So I went through the cleaning cycle for tile black cartridge - about 20 seconds - and it was fine after that. And that was the first time I'd ever needed to clean it.

Occasionally the machine seems to pause between pages, give a yawn, and go through what seems to be a cleaning cycle, but I'm not sure, and it's not an advertised facility. And sometimes this happens when you switch on. On one other occasion I cleaned the head because the print was going faint but that was because the ink had run out. The Epson has only two cartridges - a black one and a colour one - and they're side by side in the machine. The colour cartridge is a three-in-one affair, so if you use a lot of red and not much of anything else, hard luck. But I expect there's a cheapie filler somewhere. I wouldn't say I do a fantastic amount of work that needs printing (apart from during the last few months), so I'm oil my third black cartridge, and still on the first colour one. That latter does surprise me, though, because I've been scanning photographs (from little yellow wallets) with a colour hand-scanner (Scanmate - superb colour - doesn't take up much space - not too good at stitching) and blowing them up to poster size and larger - you know, you match and stick the A4 sheets together and then trim the edges. And that's certainly covered a lot of surface area. At one point the colour started to go funny, as though something was missing. So I went through the cleaning cycle for the colour head (something I'd only needed once before), and it was still the same. And again - still the same. Did a test print-out to see which of the colours had run out. Bugger it, they were all OK. And still it did the funny printing. Then I suddenly noticed through a red haze (I mean, I was getting upset!) that there was no black type on the test sheet. And it turned out that it was the black cartridge that had run out. New black cartridge, and it was perfect again. So beware of colour pictures - there's a lot more black used than you imagine, and not just a mix of the primary colours.

I always tend to think of technology making things easier, i.e. faster. But easier isn't necessarily faster (as in Windows), nor is higher quality. Nor is flexibility, nor loads of facilities. When I press the Print button, the machine doesn't just start printing - it goes through setting up in memory its own print file of bit-map pictures for each page, and then prints those out. At least that's how I interpret it. The print speed is fast (and certainly faster than a dot-matrix or daisy-wheel), but sorting itself out in advance takes the time. Ah, the printer only has 64K of internal memory - is that it?

You've also got to be careful to set up the printer driver with the right options yourself High, medium or draft quality can save you some ink. And you need to get the half-toning right. "No Half-toning makes ordinary print go faster. But, as soon as you get grey tones or colour, you've got to shed one of seven dither patterns or diffused settings, and the more blocks of colour there are, the more you need "microweave" to stop the "blocking" lines. And all of these take more memory and more time before printing actually starts. Not to mention portrait or landscape settings, or 360 dpi or 720 dpi. Not every applications program overrides these or sets these for you.

At 720 dpi on the special glossy paper the quality of a photograph or picture is actually accurately described as near-photographic. To the layman it is photographic. But with my 486 DX2 and 8Mb RAM and 500Mb hard disk and 2 Mb video card the arriving at the printing stage either via WordPerfect DTP or via Photofinish (an image enhancing and editing program) does involve a lot of hanging around looking at hour-glasses. Just for still pictures you need much more RAM than you think (actually 8Mb is a bit light, Geoff), and more speed. Mixing more than one image into a DTP document needs considerable care. The physical dimensions of the colour photograph in the final document are irrelevant - it's so going to be a megabyte or whatever, whether it's 2" square or 6" square. I can never quite grasp this.

Do I really need a colour printer in the first place? Well, the point of departure was CAD (Computer Aided Design) - colouring up design drawings helps make them more comprehensible, and certainly for the layman. This was closely followed by wanting to get back to photography, i.e. a digital darkroom, and print out photos (from scanner or Kodak photo-CD) on ordinary paper - either enlarging them, or cascading a number onto a single sheet. To be honest, I've not done as much of the latter as I expected (for other reasons) and almost none of the former (largely because I've not managed to find a printer driver for the Epson Stylus. Colour - or the Esc/P2 format - and Autocad 10 - Help!). The main use has been Or posers and adverts for local societies and signs for fund-raising events ("This way to the Toilets").

Unfortunately I've started to find that posers are only really effective at A3 size, and that really is also the best small size for architectural drawings. So I start to wonder about upgrading to a larger printer. And do they do an A3 colour printer yet that's affordable? Who knows, perhaps size is actually more important than colour, if you have to choose. But I can't face my wife on this yet!

Actually I've found the grey background highlighting (for lines and paragraphs) the most useful facility. It can make spreadsheets and financial or statistical reports more comprehensible at a glance. They can also be photocopied for mass distribution - on most photocopiers anyway. However, the man in the printshop told-me that inkjets can't or don't print out the grey in dotted half-tone like the newspapers, but only in their own weave type pattern, which isn't particularly effective when setting up for offset printing (for some reason I can't understand). I haven't yet asked him about the other six alternative half-tones that are in the driver set-up options. A colour printer is a bit like a colour television - not really essential, but brilliant on occasions - and in the end you have one because it becomes so cheap that it becomes the standard. Forget about cheap Christmas cards, though - they'll probably cost you more to print than the pack you get from the bargain shops.

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HAVE A "POWWOW" ON THE INTERNET
Harri, VE3TIE

Anyone interested in getting into a discussion or chat with other hams on Internet. If you don't have "Powwow" get it from www.tribal.com.

KC6LTS Glen hosts a chat conference at *glenn@genesisnetwork.net* You need "Powwow" to get in.

PACKET PRIVACY AND ALL THAT
From Terry (VK5ATN) in South Australia on Packet
<VK5ATN@VK5WI.#ADL.#SA.AUS.OC>

In recent bulletins both Mike VK4XT and Paul VK2BZC make useful contributions to the discussion on the general (non private) nature of amateur radio communications. They are essentially quite correct in their observations, and I have little quarrel with their well reasoned thoughts on the matter. AR transmissions are public in nature. It has always been thus with phone, morse and other similar 'nonresidual' kinds of transmissions, and it continues to be the case with packet radio transmissions. However the very nature and concept of packet operations presents a slightly different perspective of the overall picture. The spoken word vanishes into the 'ether' as soon as it is transmitted and provides no permanent physical record either to the person for whom it is intended or any casual or serious eavesdropper unless of course someone has their tape recorder running. But that is not normally part of the casual listening process, and implies a more than passing interest in events. There is a further factor to be considered in packet operations. It is a simple function of packet exchanges that the data to be sent or received has to stored on a long or short term basis at various points in the path of the message. There is no doubt that in the process of packet transmission, anyone can 'eavesdrop' on that message and absorb what is being conveyed just as with any other transmitted signal. It is there for all to see. However I would submit that when a 'P' message is stored in a BBS or PMS, it is no longer in the public domain if I may use that term. Action has to be taken by a third party if they want to see it. Such an action goes beyond the casual overhearing of the message 'on air' and becomes in essence, an intrusive investigation. Sysops having due concern or reasonable suspicions about the legality of material in 'their' BBS come into the picture at this point. But let us go back to the basics of the situation for a moment. The concept of whether any message in the amateur packet system can be 'personal' much less 'private' is an interesting one with which to wrestle. Firstly I would contend that if a message is sent as a P category message, then the intention of the sender is quite clear. It is intended to be a Private or Personal message meant for the station to whom it is addressed, and not for the eyes of anyone else. It is also reasonable to expect that such a message in part or whole might be seen by others during the transmission process. There is no guarantee as to the message being totally private or confidential. That anyone else can or might deliberately look at it either in transmission or storage, is up to the moral scruples and conscience of the person concerned. The intention of the sender however remains perfectly clear the message has been sent in the Private as distinct from the Bulletin category.

If I send a sealed letter addressed (say) to Paul via snail mail, it is my reasonable expectation and confidence that he will be the first and only person to have read it in its travels. I would not expect it to be opened/read by Australia Post, the local postie, or any member of his or my family. That any of the people along the way might be able to read it does not give them the right to do so. If I send him a postcard, or enclose the letter in a unsealed envelope, the situation changes somewhat as others may well then be able read it either causally or deliberately However the intention that the message was meant only for him has not changed. All that has changed is the degree of difficulty I have established for others in the forwarding chain to read a private communication. I believe that the same principle should apply in the matter of private/personal packet messages, except that the degree of 'privacy' clearly changes depending upon the state of the message at any particular point in its progress. During transmission it is in essence a post card, able to be read by anyone who is looking on. However whilst in the BBS (or mail bag at the post office if I may draw the parallel) it reverts to its non-public (or private) identity. It is no longer readily available for everyone to see, and anyone who, using a position of privilege, goes to the trouble of reading it at that particular point, should know full well within themselves that they are intruding upon the matters of another individual. How they feel about that is a matter for their own conscience. I remain very strongly of the opinion that wherever a message is designated as a P category message, there is a clear moral obligation on all others, Sysops included, to respect it as such, and where reasonable, to afford it the privacy which is clearly intended even if they have the opportunity, motivation and power to do otherwise. Such an opinion is little more than the reasonable expectation and obligation which requires all people in a civilised society to respect the right of each individual to certain long established principles of privacy and freedom from outside intrusion into personal matters. Others may disagree, but I see no real reason why packet radio should be any different just because it could be.

(Note from the Editors: This material has been included for general interest and to stimulate discussion - we will be very happy to see any correspondence)

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PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES!

Submitted by Richard Murnane

The proliferation of modern programming languages (all of which seem to have stolen countless features from one another) sometimes makes it difficult to remember which one you're currently using. This handy reference is offered as a public service to help programmers who find themselves in such a dilemma.

TASK: Shoot yourself in the foot.

C: You shoot yourself in the foot.

C++: You accidentally create a dozen instances of yourself and shoot them all in the foot. Providing emergency medical assistance is impossible since you can't tell which are bitwise copies and which are just pointing at others and saying, "That's me, over there."

FORTRAN: You shoot yourself in each toe, iteratively, until you run out of toes, then you read in the next foot and repeat. If you run out of bullets, you continue with the attempts to shoot yourself anyways because you have no exception-handling capability.

Pascal: The compiler won't let you shoot yourself in the foot.

Ada: After correctly packing your foot, you attempt to concurrently load the gun, pull the trigger, scream, and shoot yourself in the foot. However, when you do, you discover you can't because your foot is of the wrong type.

COBOL: Using a COLT 45 HANDGUN, AIM gun at LEG.FOOT, THEN place ARM.HAND.FINGER on HANDGUN.TRIGGER and SQUEEZE. THEN return HANDGUN to HOLSTER. CHECK whether SHOELACE needs to be re-tied.

LISP: You shoot yourself in the appendage which holds the gun with which you shoot yourself in the appendage which holds the gun with which you shoot yourself in the appendage which holds the gun with which you shoot yourself in the appendage which holds the gun with which you shoot yourself in the appendage which holds the gun with which you shoot yourself in the appendage which holds...

FORTH: Foot in yourself shoot.

Prolog: You tell your program that you want to be shot in the foot. The program figures out how to do it, but the syntax doesn't permit it to explain it to you.

BASIC: Shoot yourself in the foot with a water pistol. On large systems, continue until entire lower body is waterlogged.

Visual Basic: You'll really only _appear_ to have shot yourself in the foot, but you'll have had so much fun doing it that you won't care.

HyperTalk: Put the first bullet of gun into foot left of leg of you. Answer the result.

Motif: You spend days writing a UIL description of your foot, the bullet, its trajectory, and the intricate scrollwork on the ivory handles of the gun. When you finally get around to pulling the trigger, the gun jams.

APL: You shoot yourself in the foot, then spend all day figuring out how to do it in fewer characters.

SNOBOL: If you succeed, shoot yourself in the left foot. If you fail, shoot yourself in the right foot.

Unix % ls foot.c foot.h foot.o toe.c toe.o % rm * .o rm: .o: no such file or directory % ls %

Concurrent Euclid: You shoot yourself in somebody else's foot.

370 JCL: You send your foot down to MIS and include a 400-page document explaining exactly how you want it to be shot. Three years later, your foot comes back deep-fried.

Paradox: Not only can you shoot yourself in the foot, your users can, too.

Access: You point the gun at your foot and pull the trigger. A little flag pops out of the gun which reads, "Error: call to undefined dynalink" The gun then proceeds to explode in your hand.

Revelation: You're sure you're going to be able to shoot yourself in the foot, just as soon as you figure out what all these nifty little bullet-thingies are for.

Assembler: You try to shoot yourself in the foot, only to discover you must first invent the gun, the bullet, the trigger, and your foot.

Modula2: After realizing that you can't actually accomplish anything in this language, you shoot yourself in the head.

E-MAIL AND PACKET ADDRESSES AND CALL SIGNS:

Alan Avery, VK2AXA
John Bays: VK2SB
Robert Blake: VK2BRN
Trevor Bird: trevorrb@loxinfo.co.th
Sam Burgess: CompuServe: 70031,3454,
harburg@ozemail.com.au
Phil Croker, VK2PR
Alan Croker: VK2KCG
Frank di Bartolo: frankdb@accsoft.com.au
Owen Davies, VK2FMR
Steve Filan: s.filan@unsw.edu.au
Mayling Hargreaves: CompuServe: 70031,3454,
harburg@ozemail.com.au
Owen Holmwood:
owen.holmwood@TAFEnsw.edu.au, VK2AEJ
Dave Horsfall, VK2 KFU
John Innes: jinnes@sydney.DIALix.oz.au, VK2AUI
Peter Jensen: jensenpr@ozemail.com.au,
VK2AQJ@VK2OP, VK2AQJ
Kees Lindeman, VK2CKL
Brad McMaster: bjm@acm.org, VK2KQH
Ian Marshall: VK2JI
John Mouritsen, VK2GQQ
Dave Mumford, VK2PX
Richard Murnane, VK2SKY, richardm@zeta.org.au
Brian Watt, VK2OV

MEETING SCHEDULE FOR ACCA

You have received a notice about meeting dates recently. Over a year ago the Crows Nest Club was about to merge with another and leave their premises. However we learnt in December that the merger did not occur. So meetings will return there and revert to the third Monday in the month until June 30 when the Club may moving from its present site. If it does we will have to move again. The same will apply if something happens with Middle Head.

Crows Nest Club, 31 Hayberry St. Crows Nest, NSW 2065. Tel: 02 9955 0209, 02 9955 0200

Monday, 19 May
Monday, 16 June
Monday, 21 July
Members can meet for a Barbecue meal 6.30pm. The meetings will start at 7.30pm. Visitors are always welcome.

ACCA WEB PAGES

Thanks to the generosity of member Richard Murnane, ACCA has web pages at the WIA site: http://marconi.mpce.mq.edu.au/wia/clubs/acca.html.

As well as details of ACCA they include the proposal for the National Centre and Museum for Radio Communications & Computers, information on Middle Head Peninsula as a Centre for Radio Communications & Computing.

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